TERROR

PAPERCUTZ

NO. 9
ALL-NEW!

# TALES FROM THE CRYPT

AN ENTERTAINING EC COMIC ®

IN THIS ISSUE:
"CHICKEN MAN"
BY LANSDALE & ROMBERGER!

FEATURING...

THE CRYPT-KEEPER

THE OLD WITCH

THE VAULT-KEEPER

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# PAPERCUTZ™

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# TALES FROM THE CRYPT®

BASED ON THE CLASSIC EC COMICS SERIES.

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO WILLIAM M. GAINES, AL FELDSTEIN, REED CRANDALL, JOHNNY CRAIG, JACK DAVIS, WILL ELDER, GEORGE EVANS, GRAHAM INGELS, JACK KAMEN, BERNIE KRIGSTEIN, HARVEY KURTZMAN, JOE ORLANDO, GEORGE ROUSSOS, MARIE SEVERIN, AL WILLIAMSON, AND WALLY WOOD.

"CHICKEN MAN"

JOHN L. LANSDALE
WRITER

JAMES ROMBERGER &
MARGUERITE VAN COOK
ARTISTS

MARK LERER
LETTERER

THE CRYPT-KEEPER

"GLASS HEADS"

FRED VAN LENTE
WRITER

RYAN DUNLAVEY
ARTIST

GHOULUNATICS SEQUENCES

JIM SALICRUP
*WRITER*

RICK PARKER
*ARTIST/TITLE LETTERER/COLOR*

TERRY NANTIER

MARK LERER
*LETTERER*

JIM SALICRUP

STEVEN MANNION
*COVER ARTIST*

CHRIS NELSON & SHELLY DUTCHAK
*PRODUCTION*

MICHAEL PETRANEK
*EDITORIAL ASSISTANT*

THE PUBLISHER

THE OLD EDITOR

Caricatures by Rick Parker.

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# THE WITCH'S CAULDRON!

MY NAME'S WILL BENDER.
I HEARD THE VOODOO MAN WAS IN NEED OF SOME CHICKENS, SO HERE I AM.
THESE ARE THE BEST BLEEDERS YOU EVER SEEN. POP OFF THEIR HEAD AND THE BLOOD POURS.
HOW DO I KNOW THAT, MAN?
I CAN'T CHECK WITHOUT BLEEDING ONE. YOU WANT ME TO DO THAT?

TAKE MY WORD FOR IT...I'LL SELL YOU A DOZEN FOR A HUNDRED DOLLARS APIECE.
YOU THINK NED STUPID, MAN? NO WAY I PAY YOU THAT KIND OF MONEY. I GO SEE OLD MAN SMITH. HE SELL ME CHICKENS FOR FIVE DOLLARS APIECE.
NOT ANYMORE, I BOUGHT HIM OUT. THESE ARE THE ONLY LIVE CHICKENS WITHIN A HUNDRED MILES OF HERE.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED IN HAITI ...TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT.
HAHAHA HA HA HA

OKAY, I TAKE ALL OF THEM, MAN. MAGIC DON'T WORK WITHOUT THEM. I FIX YOU LATER.

THAT VOODOO NONSENSE DON'T WORK ANYWAY.

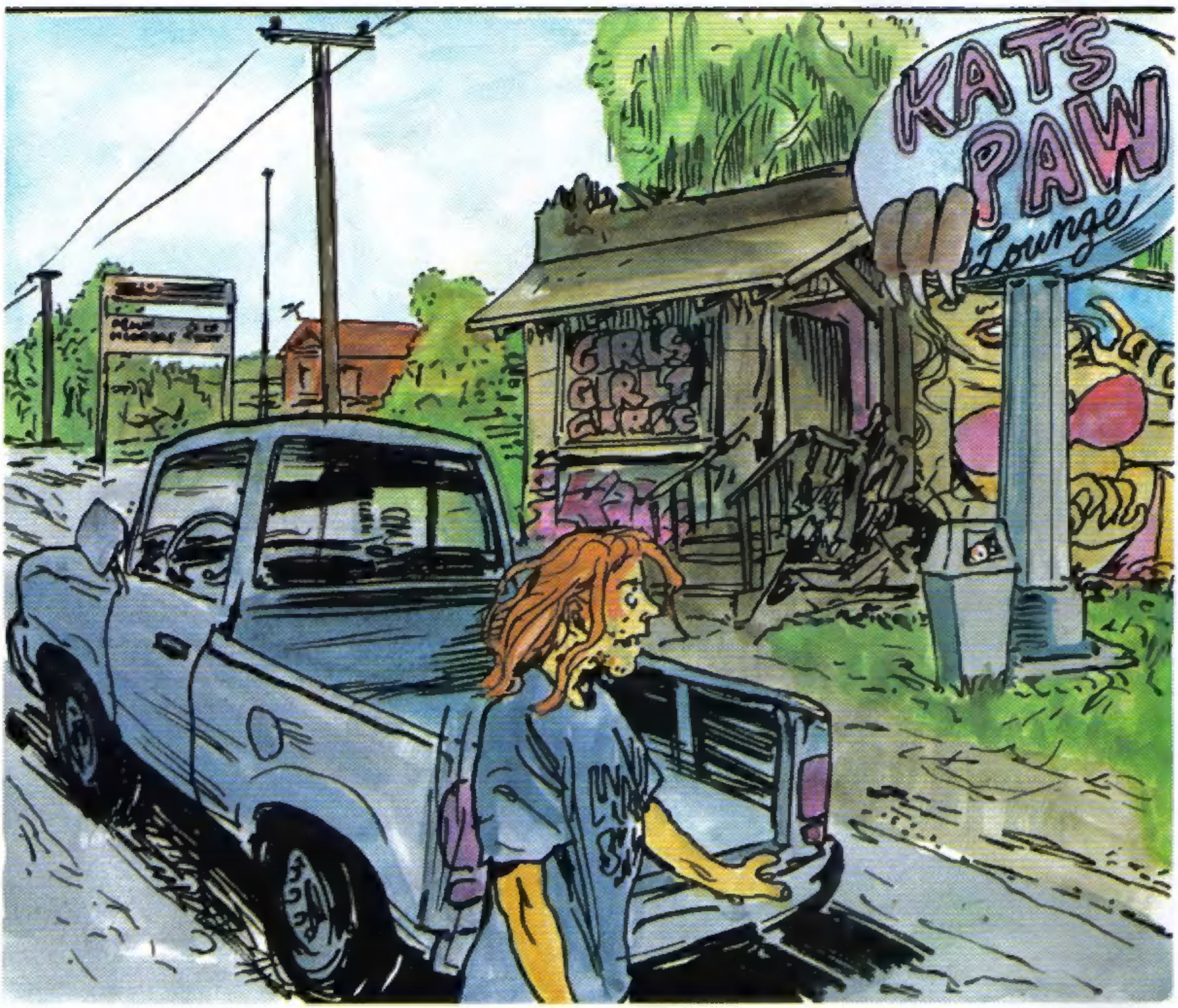
WE BOTH KNOW YOU'RE JUST HOODWINKING PEOPLE. I DON'T CARE THOUGH, EVERYBODY HAS TO MAKE A BUCK.

YOU KNOW NOTHING. I WOULD BE MORE CAREFUL WHAT I SAY, WILL BENDER.

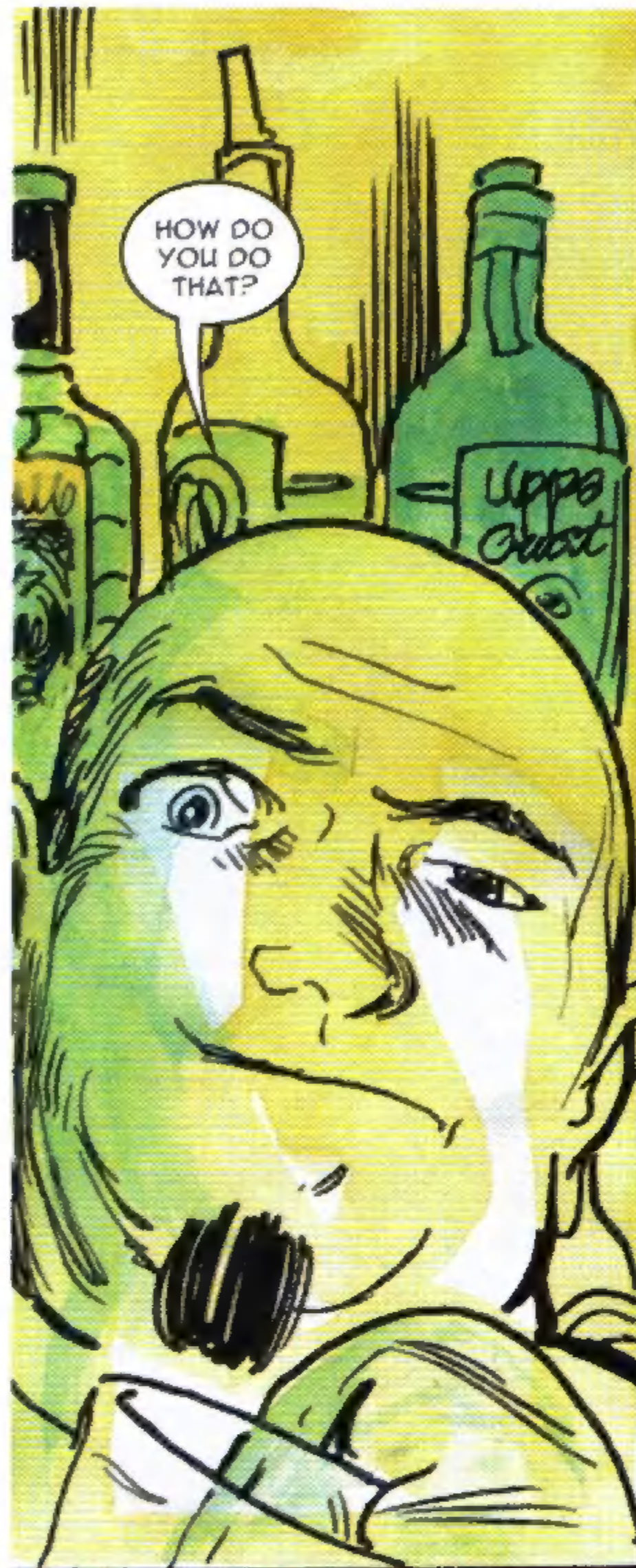
YOU MAY REGRET IT. PUT THE CHICKENS ON MY TRUCK.

WHAT DID YOU DO?
NOTHING. I DO NOTHING, MAN.

HAVE VOODOO
WILL TRAVEL


KATS PAW
Lounge
GIRLS
GIRLS
GIRLS

WHAT YOU BEEN UP TO, WILL?
MAKING A LITTLE MONEY.
NEED A WHOLE LOT MORE.


HOW DO YOU DO THAT?
Uppo Quat

I FOUND SOMEONE STUPID ENOUGH TO PAY A HUNDRED DOLLARS APIECE FOR LIVE CHICKENS
THAT IS STUPID.

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

BOY, I COULD USE SOME EASY MONEY LIKE THAT. MY OLD EX-LADY IS PUSHING ME FOR ALIMONY.
THERE'S MORE IF YOU GOT THE BACK-BONE FOR IT. HELP ME GET IT AND I'LL SPLIT IT WITH YOU.
I'M ABOUT READY FOR ANY-THING, THE WAY THAT WOMAN'S HOUNDING ME.
I SAW THE MONEY THIS AFTER-NOON. YOU GOT A GUN?
YEAH, I GOT A GUN; THIRTY-EIGHT MY OLD MAN GAVE ME.
I KEEP IT HID SO MY PAROLE OFFICER DON'T KNOW.

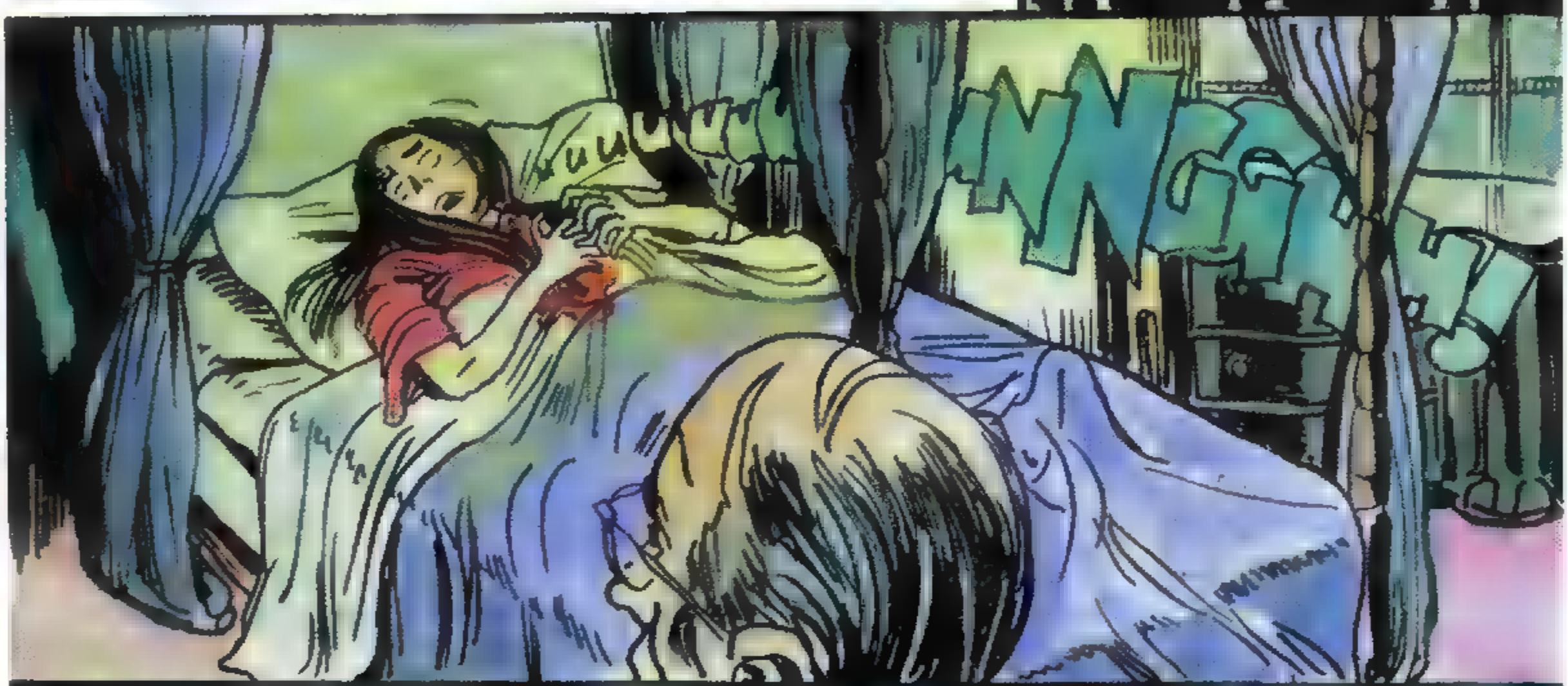
THE GUN'S JUST FOR SHOW RIGHT? I DON'T WANT TO SHOOT ANYBODY.
WHATEVER IT TAKES.

HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

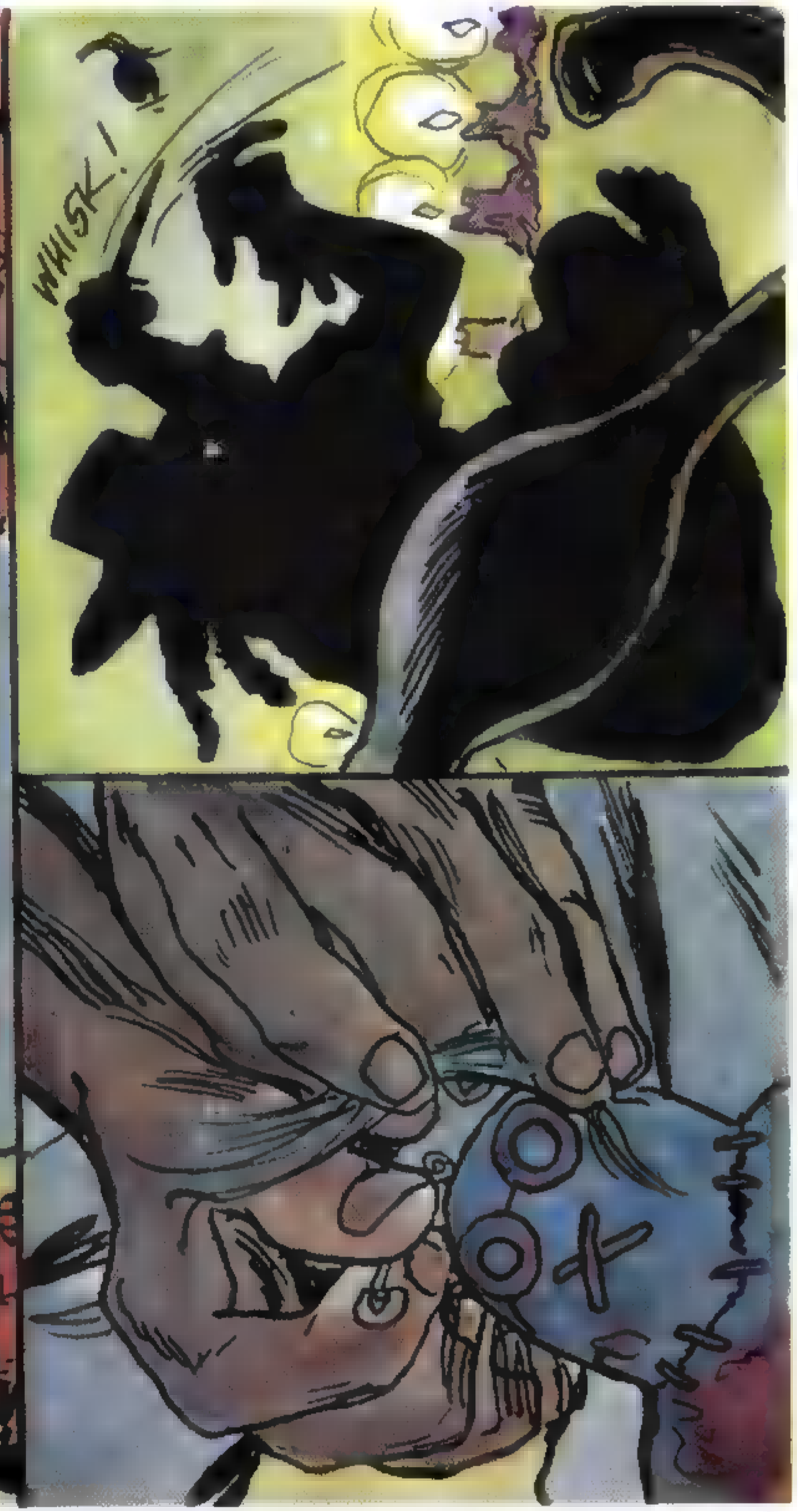
NO MORE DO YOU CHEAT ON YOUR MAN.
POKE!
HE PAY ME GOOD TO STOP IT.
WE GOING TO DO THIS, OR NOT?
I'M LOOKING THE PLACE OVER. SHHH.

IT'S DONE.

OOOHH!


NNGH

ACH! ACH! ACH!
MONEY WELL SPENT.


WHISK!

AAAAHHIEE

I WANT THAT ROLL OF BILLS I SAW THIS AFTER-NOON, VOODOO MAN--
--AND HURRY UP!

NEVER! YOU NEVER KNOW WHERE NED'S MONEY IS.
GO AHEAD, MAN, KILL ME IF YOU HAVE A MIND TO.

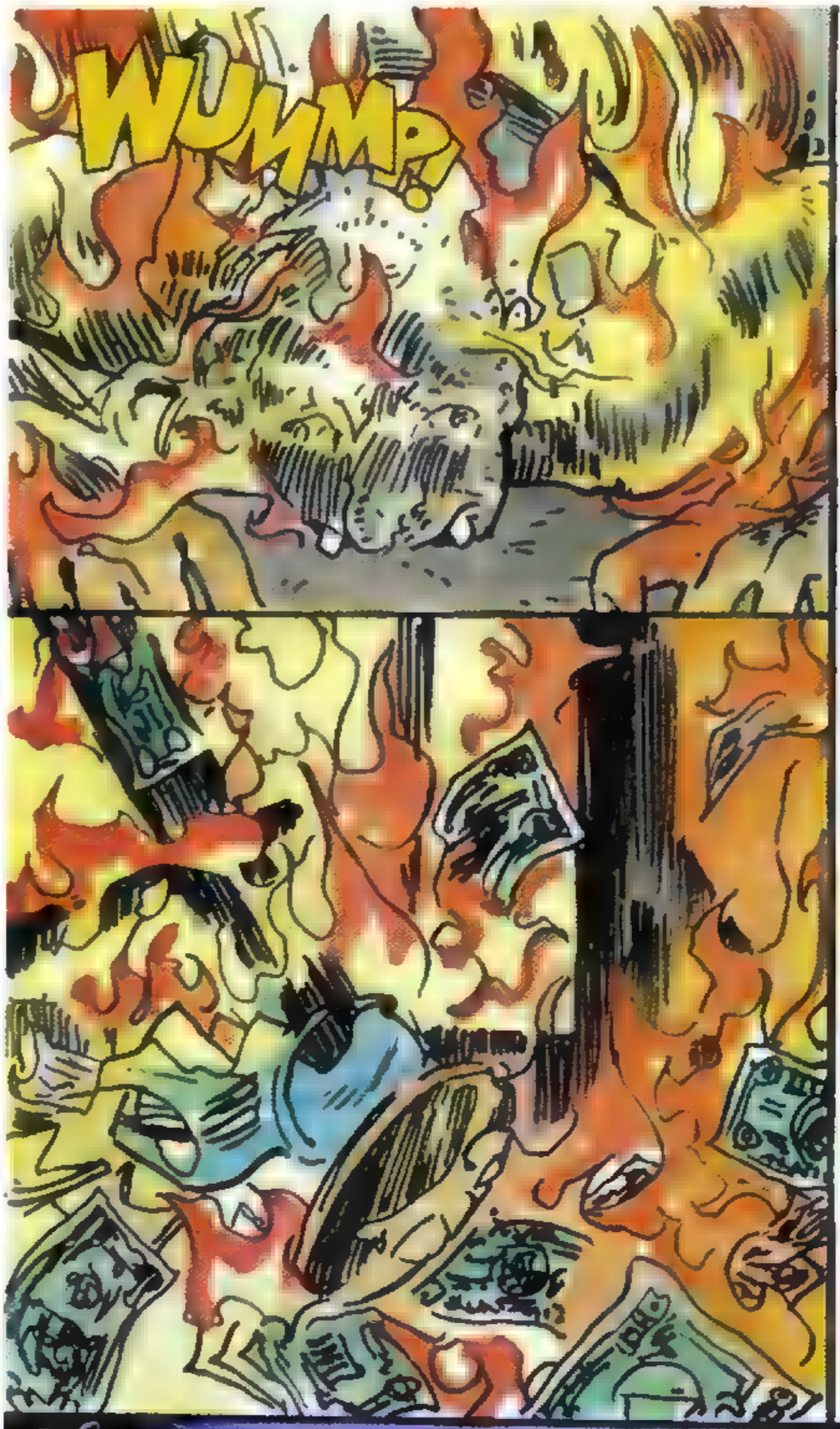
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M GOING TO DO, IF YOU DON'T COME UP WITH THAT MONEY.
BANG!
WHUMP

NOW WHAT? HOW YOU GOING TO FIND THE MONEY NOW?
WHAT THE--?!

GASP!
CHOKE
CLICK CLUK
CLUK
CLUK
CLUK
CLUCK
KLUK
CLUC

I KNOW IT'S HERE!
PECK PECK
PECK PECK PECK PECK

OH, NO...!
OWWW!
AH!
AGH!
AGH!
AGH!
AAARRGHH!


WUMM

HEHEH! AND *YOU* THOUGHT THE CHICKEN CROSSED THE ROAD JUST TO GET TO THE *OTHER SIDE!* YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THAT AWFUL ONE-EYED SNAKE!

WE AGREED TO LET YOU *COOK* DINNER -- NOT FOR US TO BE YOUR *CANNIBALISTIC CULINARY CONCOCTION!!*

HEY, I SAID IT WOULD BE *POT LUCK!*

*>GASP!!<*
*>CHOKE!<*

I REALLY OUGHT TO GET A *MICROWAVE OVEN!*

WHILE THESE TWO *SIMMER* AND *STEW*, HERE'S A *PSYCHIC SHOCKER* FOR YOU THAT I CALL...

# GLASS HEADS

GO HOME? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IT'S ONLY MIDNIGHT!

FORGET IT, CHANDLER. THOSE OF US WITHOUT TRUST FUNDS HAVE TO GO TO WORK IN THE MORNING.

YEAH, CHANDLER, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO DECIDE THERE ACTUALLY IS SOMETHING YOU WANT TO DO WITH YOUR LIFE?

NOW THAT'S JUST NOT FAIR. I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I'M DOING FOR AT LEAST TWELVE HOURS OF EVERY DAY.

OF COURSE, THAT'S SLEEPING, BUT...

YEESH! YOU'RE A DISGRACE TO RICH KIDS EVERYWHERE, YOU KNOW THAT?

A DISGRACE. HUH.

THERE'S A PURPOSE I MIGHT ACTUALLY BE ABLE TO GET INTO...

YOU.

PLEASE.

HELP ME.
IF YOU CAN HEAR ME, PLEASE, PLEASE HELP ME.
YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE.

GOOD LORD!

WHAT'S HER PROBLEM?

WHA-HUH?

SINCE WHEN DO EMPTY TABLES HAVE A GENDER, DUDE?

YOU JEALOUS MAGE SLAVES TRYING TO PULL A PRANK ON ME OR SOMETHING?

WHOA... GO EASY ON THE CHAI RICE MILK LATTES, THERE, PARDNER... THERE'S NOBODY THERE!

I DON'T THINK THERE WAS ANYBODY THERE, EITHER, UNLESS SHE WALKED BY REAL FAST, OR SOMETHING...

YEAH... SHE MUSTA JUST...

...BRUSHED BY ME...

...OR SOMETHING.

'VETTE! C'MON! THE SUN IS OUT! THE BIRDS ARE SINGING! IT'S APRIL IN NEW YORK!
WHY DO YOU WANT TO WASTE IT IN THE LIBRARY?
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO WASTE MY LIFE FLIPPING BURGERS, CHAND!
RATS!
BANG!
I GOT MY ANALYTICAL PSCHYE FINAL IN TWO DAYS! THERE'S GOTTA BE DOZENS OF PEOPLE YOU COULD ASK TO THE PARK WITH YOU...
YEAH, BUT THEN I WOULDN'T HAVE THE PLEASURE OF CORRUPTING THEM AWAY FROM THEIR STUPID BORING WORK, HEH-HEH...

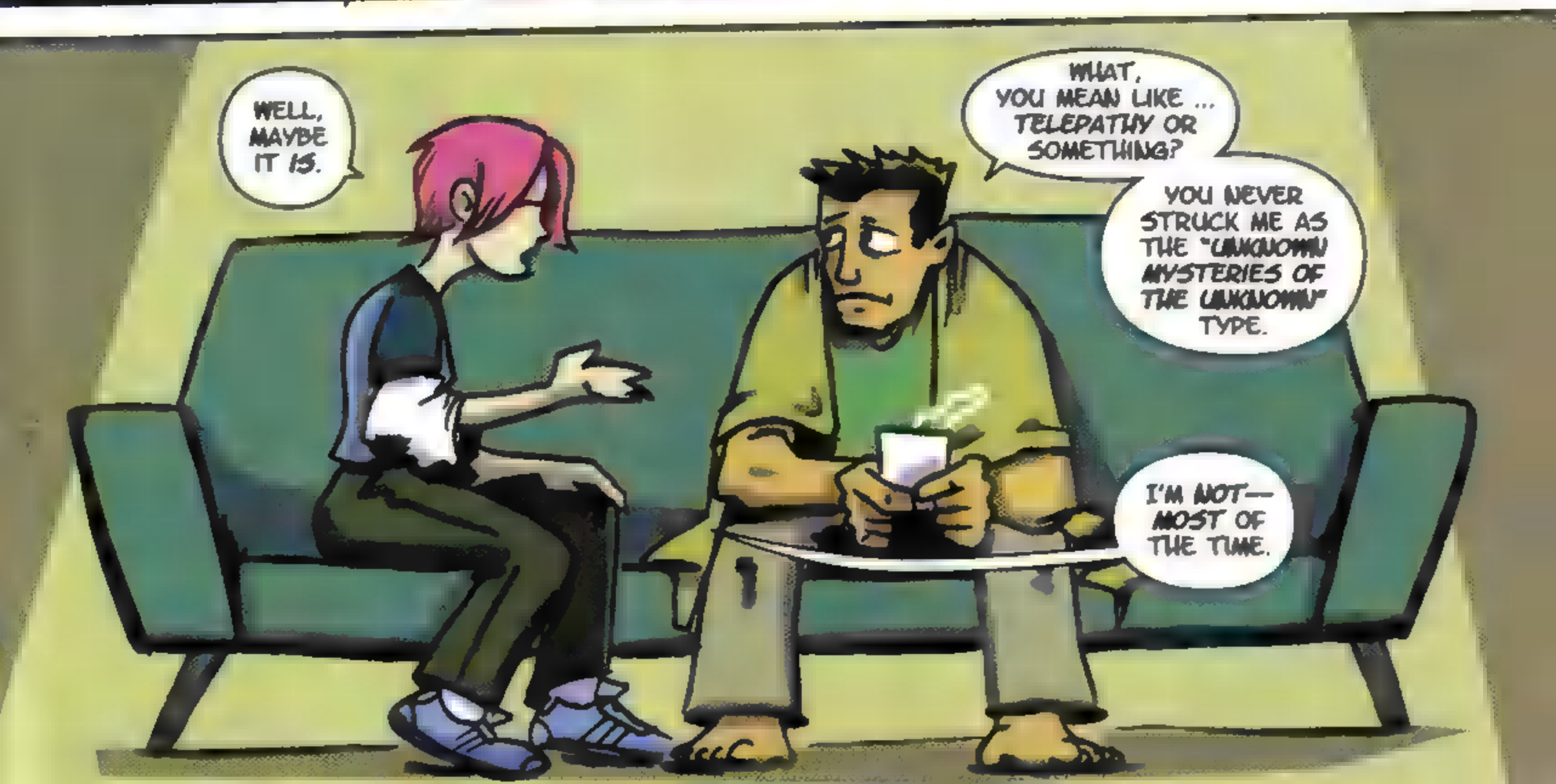
YAAAAAAH!!
WHY ARE YOU IGNORING ME?
DO YOU WANT ME TO DIE?
CHANDLER! WAS THAT YOU? WHAT HAPPENED?
IT'S GETTING WORSE....
I DIDN'T THINK THAT WAS POSSIBLE, BUT IT IS...

ONLY YOU CAN HEAR ME.
ONLY YOU CAN HELP ME.
ONLY YOU.
CHANDLER!
CHANDLER, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
DON'T-- IF YOU CAN HEAR ME- DON'T MOVE!
DON'T GO ANYWHERE!
I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!

FOR A MINUTE THERE...
I THOUGHT YOU WERE TRYING SOME KIND OF PITY PLOY TO GET ME TO GO SHOOT HOOPS WITH YOU.
I GUESS I CAN'T BLAME YOU FOR THINKING THAT. BUT...

...THIS IS THE SECOND TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED, 'VETTE. I'M WORRIED... WHAT IF IT'S A BRAIN TUMOR OR SOMETHING?
YOU SAID IT FELT LIKE-YOU WERE DREAMING SOMEBODY ELSE'S DREAM?

YEAH... I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO DESCRIBE IT...
YOU KNOW... AN OUT-OF-BODY EXPERIENCE?
WELL, THIS IS ALMOST AN OUT-OF-MIND EXPERIENCE-- LIKE MY BODY IS HOLDING SOME-BODY ELSE'S THOUGHTS.


WELL, MAYBE IT IS.
WHAT, YOU MEAN LIKE ... TELEPATHY OR SOMETHING?
YOU NEVER STRUCK ME AS THE "UNKNOWN MYSTERIES OF THE UNKNOWN" TYPE.
I'M NOT— MOST OF THE TIME.

BUT MY "ISSUES IN PSYCHE" CLASS DID A WHOLE THING ON THE E.S.P. PROGRAM THE SOVIETS HAD DURING THE SEVENTIES AND EIGHTIES.
I MEAN, THEY HAD SOME OF THE TOP SCIENTISTS IN THE WORLD WORKING ON IT, AND THEY TOOK IT SERIOUSLY.
YEAH, AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BERLIN WALL.

HA, HA. ALL I'M SAYING IS, WHAT IF THIS ISN'T A VISION?
WHAT IF THIS POOR CHICK REALLY IS TRYING TO CONTACT YOU?
IF SHE'S REAL, THEN SHE'S IN REAL TROUBLE, AND SHE'S RIGHT-- ONLY YOU CAN HELP HER.

WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO? I ALREADY MADE AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE A NEUROLOGIST— BUT HE'S BOOKED UP UNTIL NEXT WEEK.
LOOK, IF YOU ARE... RECEIVING THOUGHTS FROM SOMEBODY ELSE'S BRAIN...

...MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY TRANSMITTING SOME.
MAKE THE CONSERVATION TWO-WAY.

"WE BREATHE NATURALLY, PREFERABLY THROUGH THE *NOSTRILS*, WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO *CONTROL* OUR BREATH..."

"...AND WE TRY TO BECOME AWARE OF THE *SENSATION* OF THE BREATH AS IT ENTERS AND LEAVES THE NOSTRILS."

OKAY...

THEY'RE ALMOST FINISHED WITH ME!

YYYEAAAAGHHHH!!

I KNOW MY TIME...

CH-CHEST... IS... BURNING...

...IS NEARLY DONE...

OH, NO.

OH NO
OH NO OH NO
OH NO

UNLESS YOU COME FOR ME

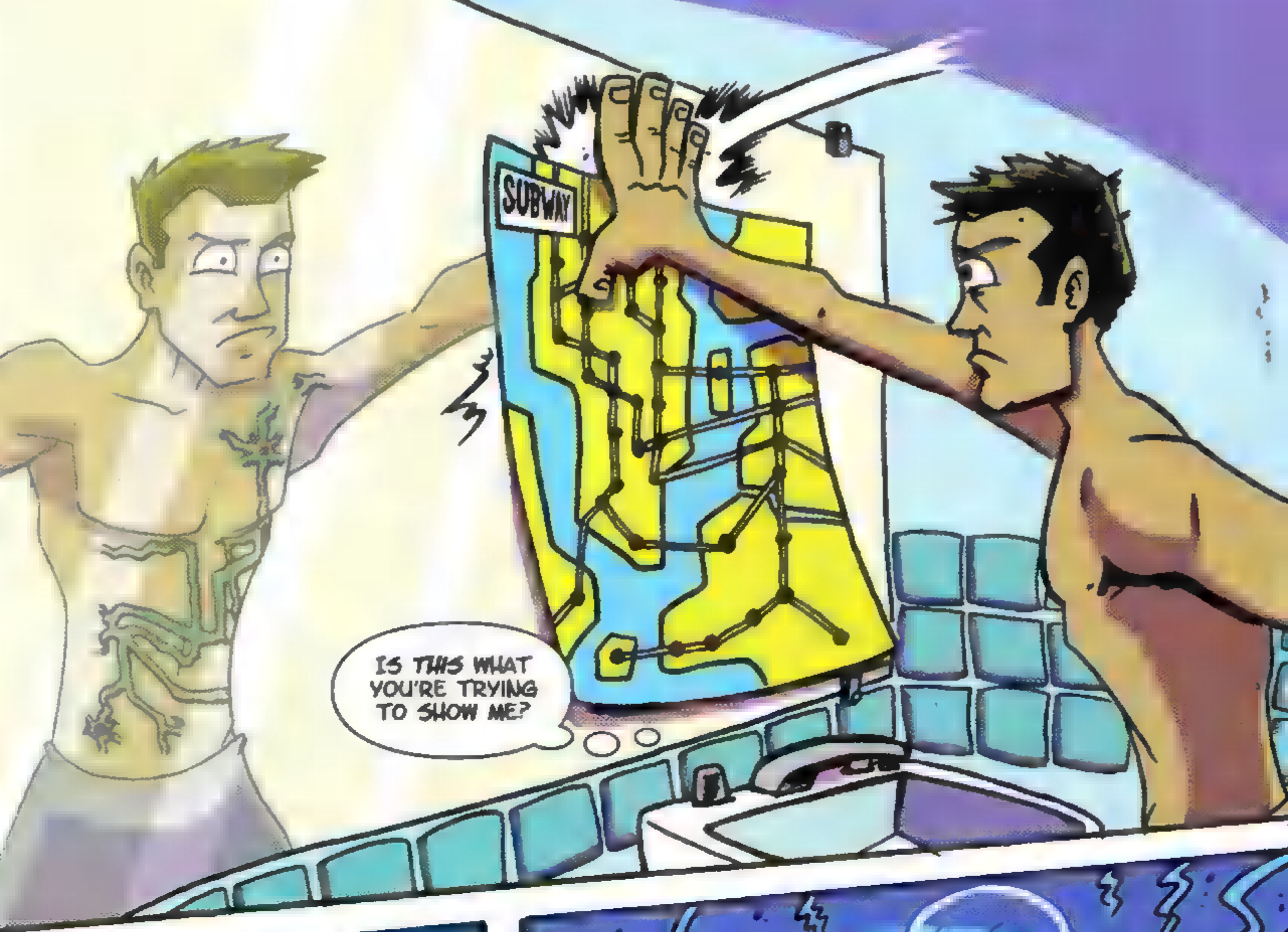
WAIT... AM I... TOTALLY LOSING IT...

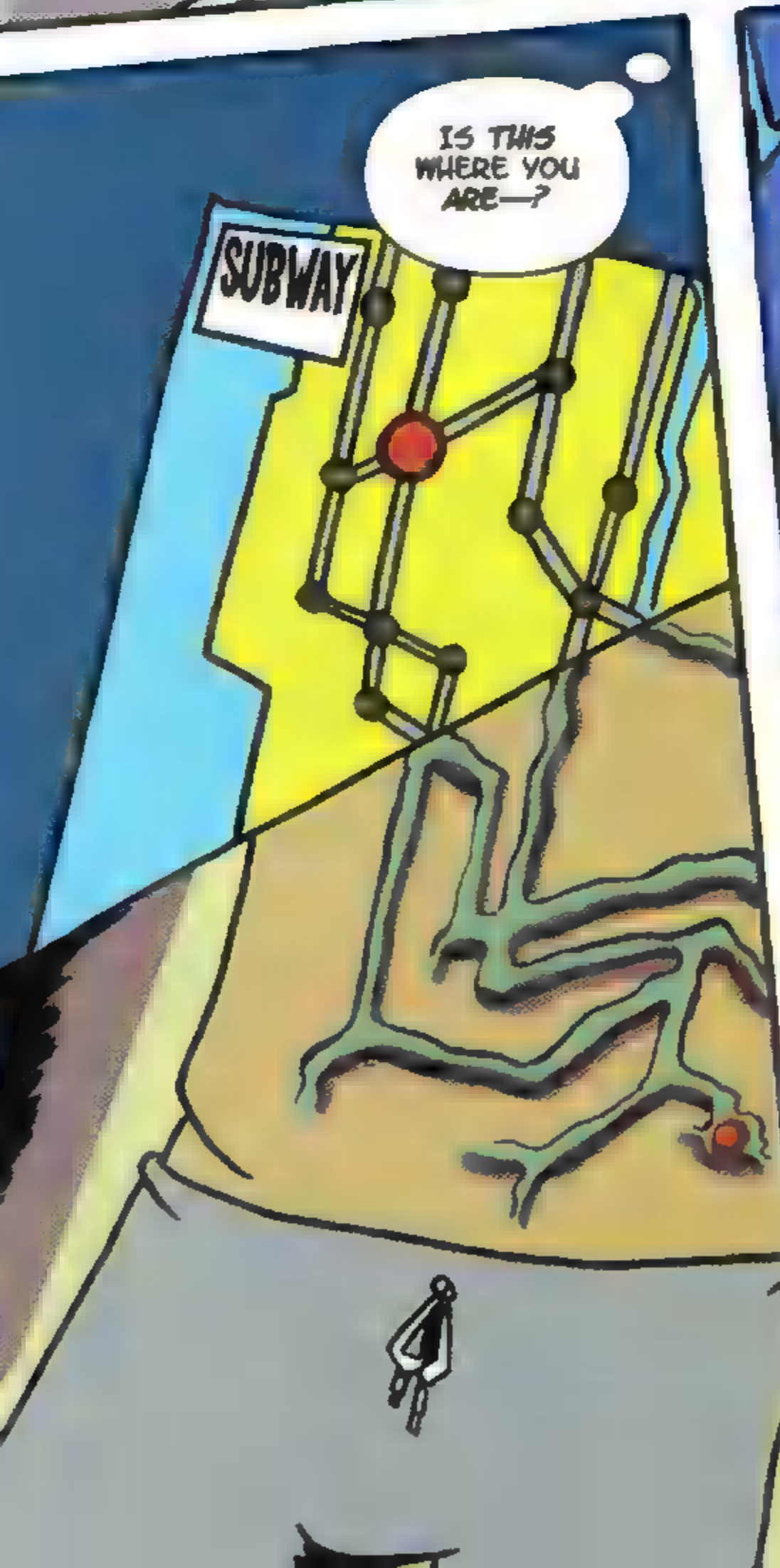
OR... IS THAT...

... FAMILIAR—?

COME FOR ME NOW

OKAY, OKAY, KEEP YOUR PANTS ON...


SUBWAY
IS THIS WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SHOW ME?


IS THIS WHERE YOU ARE—?
SUBWAY

AAAAAAAAGH!!
COME NOW!
PLEASE!!
OR IT ENDS TONIGHT!!!

YVETTE'S NOT ANSWERING HER !@#$! PHONE. MY USUAL LUCK.

ALTHOUGH... THIS MIGHT BE A BIT MUCH EVEN FOR HER TO SWALLOW.

AND...

...MAYBE THIS IS IT.

MAYBE THIS IS ... A GIFT, A TALENT.

WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR MY WHOLE LIFE.

A PURPOSE.

HELLO? MYSTERY GIRL? YOU THERE?
BREAKER, BREAKER... COME IN, GOOD BUDDY..
HAILING FREQUENCIES OPEN, ET CETERA...
DOM
KIM
ELECTRONICS
I'M HERE, IN BRIGHTON BEACH, THE NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE YOU TOLD ME TO GO.
BUT NOW YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO GIVE SOME MORE SPECIFICS TO...

MP3!
SALE
...GO...
...ON...

IS THIS WHERE YOU ARE?
WAS THAT THE POINT OF THE GLASS HEADS IN MY-YOUR-VISION?

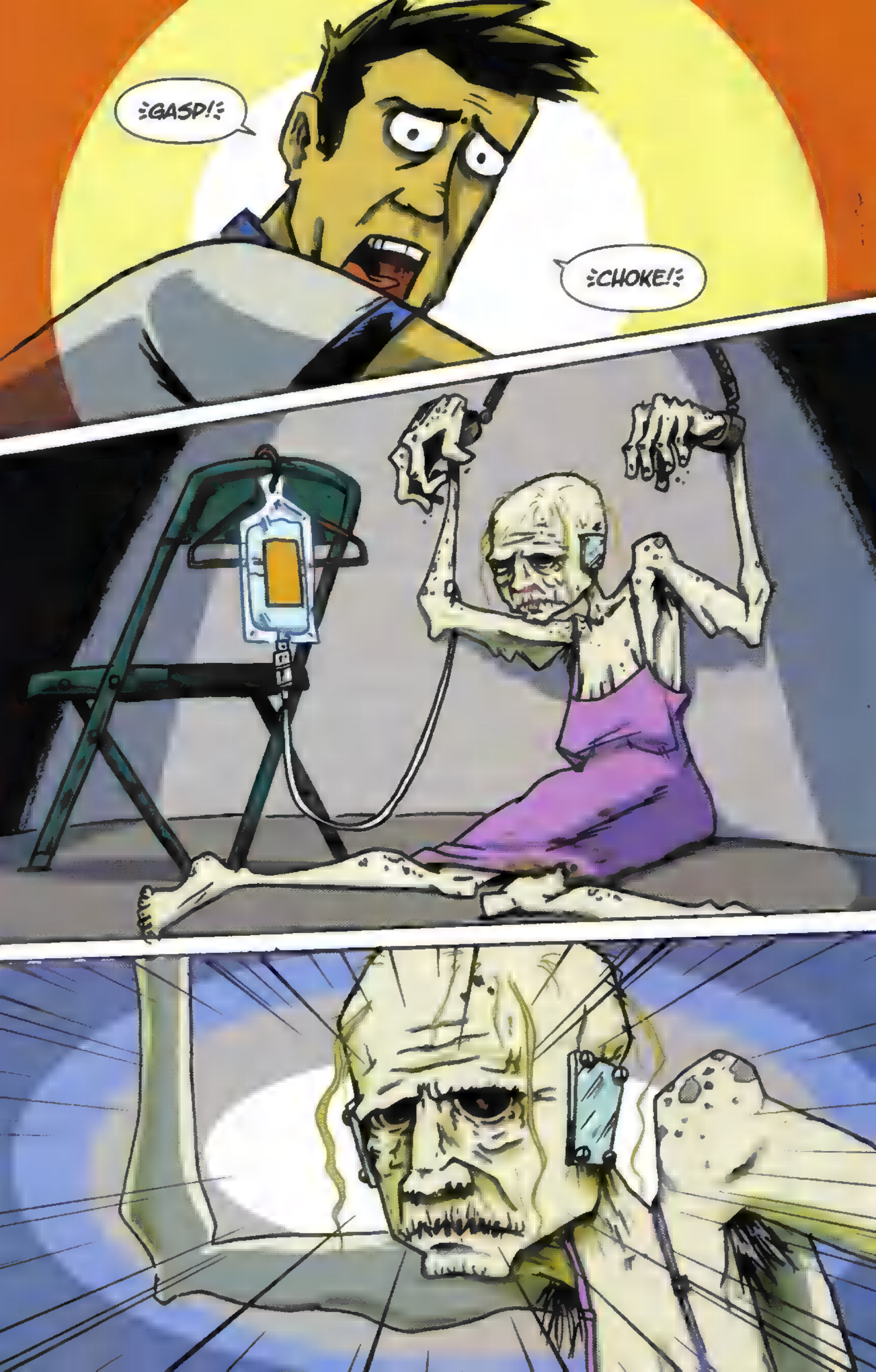
NO ANSWER...

COULD I BE TOO LATE?

NNNNGGGG-AAAAHH!!
I HAVE TO KNOW!
YOU SHOULD CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY YOU FOUND AN EXPERIENCED JUVENILE DELINQUENT AS YOUR TELEPATHIC RECEIVER!
PRIVATE
YOU BETTER BE WORTH THIS, DREAM GIRL...
I NEVER STUCK MY NECK OUT FOR ANYBODY IN MY WHOLE LIFE...

HEY ... MAYBE SHE'S A KIDNAPPED *HEIRESS* OR SOMETHING!

MAYBE THERE'LL BE A *REWARD* FOR HER RESCUE!


:GASP!:
:CHOKE!:

AAAAHH!!
AAAGHHHHH--
ZWOK!
<I HATE THE SCREAMERS THE MOST.>
:GRUNT:
<THAT'S ALL THE TEST SUBJECTS DR. KRYLOV NEEDS, DA? WE COLLECTED THEM IN RECORD TIME!>
<OUR "BROADCASTER" WORKED WONDERS, AS USUAL.>
<IT'S AMAZING HOW A PRETTY FACE WILL DISARM EVEN THE MOST POWERFUL LATENT TELEPATHS.>

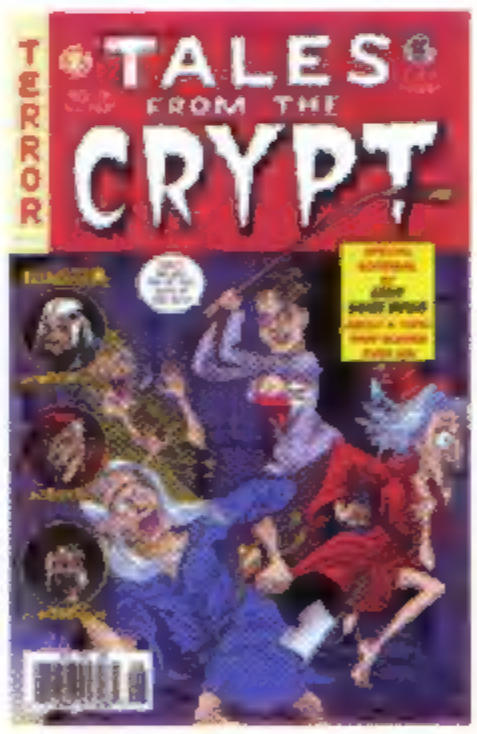
<BON VOYAGE, BOYS! ENJOY SIBERIA!>
<THOUGH YOUR LIVES MAY BE SHORT AND HARD...>
<...KNOW THEY'RE SERVING A PURPOSE...>
<...SCIENCE MUST MARCH ON!>
HAH!

TURNS OUT CHANDLER WELLS WAS JUST LIKE EVERY OTHER MAN – A *SUCKER* FOR A *PRETTY FACE!*
SPEAKING OF SUCKERS, THE CRYPT-KEEPER AND THE VAULT-KEEPER SEEMED TO HAVE HAD SOME *UNFORTUNATE SIDE EFFECTS* TO MY *CAULDRON'S CREEPY CASSEROLE!*
>BBLLARGHFF!!<
WHILE OL' C-K IS UP-CHUCKING IN HIS *INNER SANCTUM*--
>BLAARRRFFF!!<
--V-K HAS SUDDENLY BECOME ALL *WARM* AND *FUZZY!*
I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, OLD WITCH!
IF *BARF-BREATH* IS ABLE TO GET HIS ACT TOGETHER HE SHOULD BE READY TO HOST HIS *CRYPT-KEEPER'S CORNER* COLUMN, FEATURING YOUR COUNTLESS REQUESTS TO *DUMP* HIM AND THE *FAULT-KEEPER*, AND TO HAVE ME TAKE OVER *TALES FROM THE CRYPT* ON A *PERMANENT* BASIS! BE HERE NEXT ISSUE TO SEE IF *JUSTICE PREVAILS.*

THE CRYPT-KEEPER

*BUUUURRPP!!*

*'Scuze me, kiddies, your ol' pal the Crypt-Keeper just had the most DREADFUL DINING experience, thanks to The Old Witch! Would you believe she made me SICK and the Vault-Keeper RAT-ATOUILLE! If she ever invites you to lunch, RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!*




*Meanwhile, back at the CRYPT... we're still painfully PINCHING ourselves (don't try this at home!) over all the attention last issue's SCARY SARAH PALIN cover (drawn by Ricko "the Sicko" Parker) and CATHY GAINES MIFSUD'S special editorial received!*

*For example, GHOULISH GEOFF (THE BUTCHER) BOUCHER of the L. A. Times wrote a GHASTLY PIECE about it, which was picked up by the Associated Press and SPLATTERED across newspapers world-wide. Geoffy wrote...*

"The cover is a reference to two instances of content debate, one that played out on a national stage and the other a seemingly minor moment in Alaska that has been made major by the current political season.

"'Tales from the Crypt' became one of the signature names in horror and American pop culture after five years of memorable mayhem that ended in 1955. That was after months of intense pressure and new industry regulations targeting the lurid comics, spurred by televised Senate subcommittee hearings on juvenile delinquency and its causes.

"Palin, meanwhile, has taken heat for some overtures she made in 1996 while as mayor of Wasilla, Alaska. Criticized after reports that she sought to ban books from a local public library, the GOP candidate has said that on two occasions she asked 'a rhetorical question' about removing objectionable books from shelves, but that she never pursued it or mentioned specific titles.

"But any White House candidate who even entertains a conversation about book banning is a natural enemy to 'Tales from the Crypt,' according to Jim Salicrup, editor-in-chief of Papercutz, the publisher that revived the classic title about 16 months ago. 'This was not a partisan thing. People tend to think of everything as black and white these days -- you are either for or against one of the parties 100%. But for us this was about the history of EC Comics, the original publisher of 'Tales from the Crypt.' Anyone who knows that history knows that even of whiff of banning books is going to get us angry."

*Well, la-dee-dah! Who knew Salicrup was such a POLITICAL PUN-DIT? GRUESOME GRAEME McMILLAN writing the Political Science (Fiction) column on io9 asked "Are Comics Part of the Left-Wing Media Conspiracy?" as well as...*

"You may be wondering exactly what Sarah Palin's personal policies are, ahead of tonight's Vice Presidential Debate, and we're happy to help you with that: Apparently, she's anti-witch... or, at least, that's the message that we get from this cover from the October issue of the revived TALES FROM THE CRYPT. And, as this year's US Presidential election nears, this one previously non-partisan genre staple's move into editorializing against the Republican ticket is only one way in which comics are trying to get in on the action."

*But the bestest POLITICALLY INCORRECT observation was online at Gawker.com, where INSANE IAN SPIEGELMAN wrote:*

"The highlight of Sarah Palin's career? It's not her guest spot on SNL, or her scary stump speeches in front of screaming crazy racists. It's this cover for … Tales from the Crypt."

*But enough about that! There were two SHOCK-FILLED STORIES in TALES FROM THE CRYPT #8 as well. And while we're still tabulating the votes on which SCARE-TALE was our ROTTEN READER'S fave, we did receive a couple of RIOTOUS REACTIONS…(In the meantime, go to the TALES FROM THE CRYPT section of www.papercutz.com and vote online for your favorite story from THIS issue!)*

**Subject: TALES FROM THE CRYPT #8**

As a long-time fan of EC Comics, I welcome the revival of TALES FROM THE CRYPT and the guest editorial by Cathy Gaines Mifsud.

As a long-time fan of EC Comics, it's interesting to see the return of the Ray Bradbury "Home to Stay" precedent (WEIRD FANTASY #13). You forgot to acknowledge Stanley G. Weinbaum's (writing as John Jessel) oft-reprinted "The Adaptive Ultimate" (originally published in Astounding Stories, November 1935) or its film adaptation SHE DEVIL (1957) as the source of "She Who Would Rule the World."

I wish you the best of luck in the future.
Leonid Doroschenko

*If only we had an editor with the SCI-FI CREDS as LEONID, then we'd really be DANGEROUS! Sadly, we're still stuck with Salicrup, and he lamely pleads that the correct credits in both TALES FROM THE CRYPT comic #8 and graphic novel # 5 should have read:*

"SHE WHO WOULD RULE THE WORLD"
(BASED ON "THE ADAPTIVE ULTIMATE"
BY STANLEY G. WEINBAUM)
ADAPTED BY
CHRISTIAN ZANIER
WRITER, ARTIST, LETTERER, COLORIST,
MARVIN MARIANO
COLORIST

Dear Crypt-Keeper,

Just wanted to make a few comments about TFTC #8. "She Who Would Rule the World" was very well done. Both the story and the art were great. Very enjoyable. As for "Virtual Hoodoo," it was passable, but did not do much for me. One thing I found hilarious... Bart's left hand shot up from the crypt when the monsters called upon him. In and of itself, not funny. However, when you consider his left arm was ripped off by Crazy Skeleton Man just three pages earlier... pretty funny!

In closing, I'd just like to thank you for bringing back this classic title. Also, thank you for having a letters page. The lettercol is such a great aspect of comicbooks, and so few still have them.

Sincerely,
Mark Robinson
Colorado Springs, CO

*Hey, Mark, did you ever think that those other comics don't have letter columns 'cause they can't get Yours Truly to write 'em in my world-famous HORRIFIC style? Let's face it, how can they really compete with me?*

Dear Crypt-Keeper,

Hello my name is Brett, I live in England, and I am a big fan of the old TALES FROM THE CRYPT comics and I just recently purchased number 7 of the new TALES FROM THE CRYPT comics. I loved it, but here in England it is hard to get hold of your comics. So how can I subscribe? And also will I be able to back order and get the first 6 issues as well as future ones.

Brett Stephenson
England

*What's the matter, Brett? Too lazy to travel to the US to get your horror comics fix? Fortunately for you there's milehighcomics.com for back issues, and barnesandnoble.com for our CADAVEROUS COLLECTED EDITIONS, available in both soft and (for those who collect STIFFS...) hard covers.*

Keep those emails and letters coming - and if you've got any Pepto, we could use that too. Send letters to:

The Crypt-Keeper's Corner
40 Exchange Place, Suite 1308
New York, NY 10005

Or email your comments to the Old Editor at:
salicrup@papercutz.com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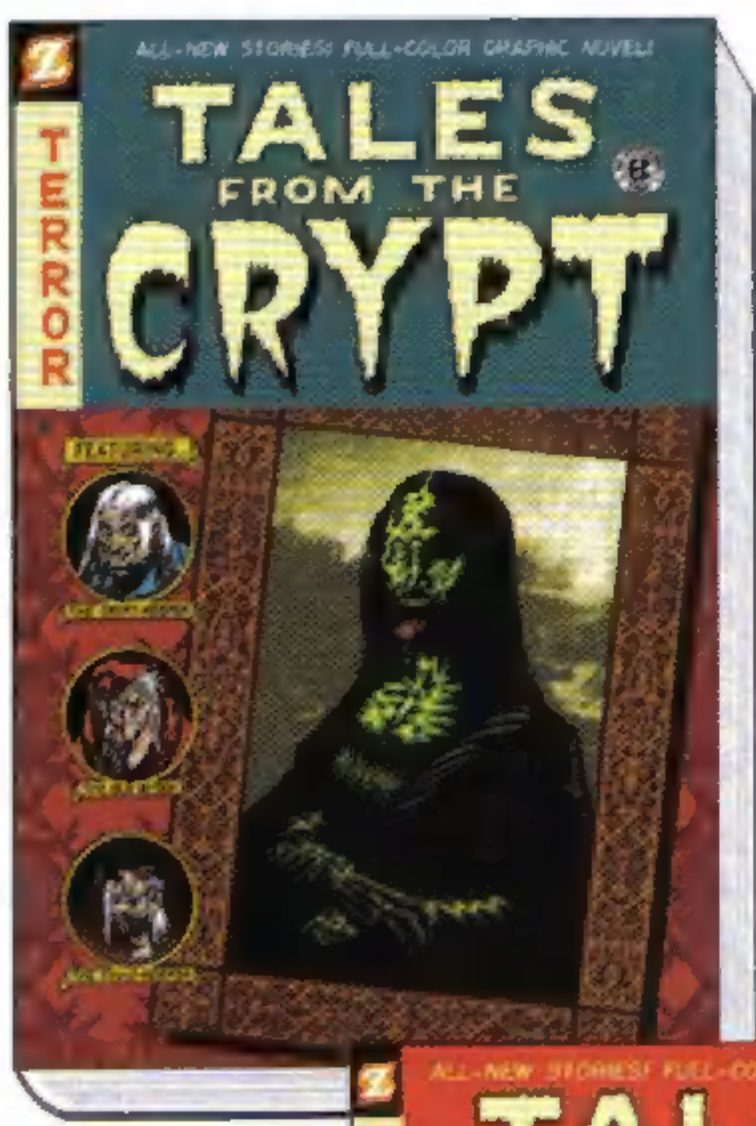
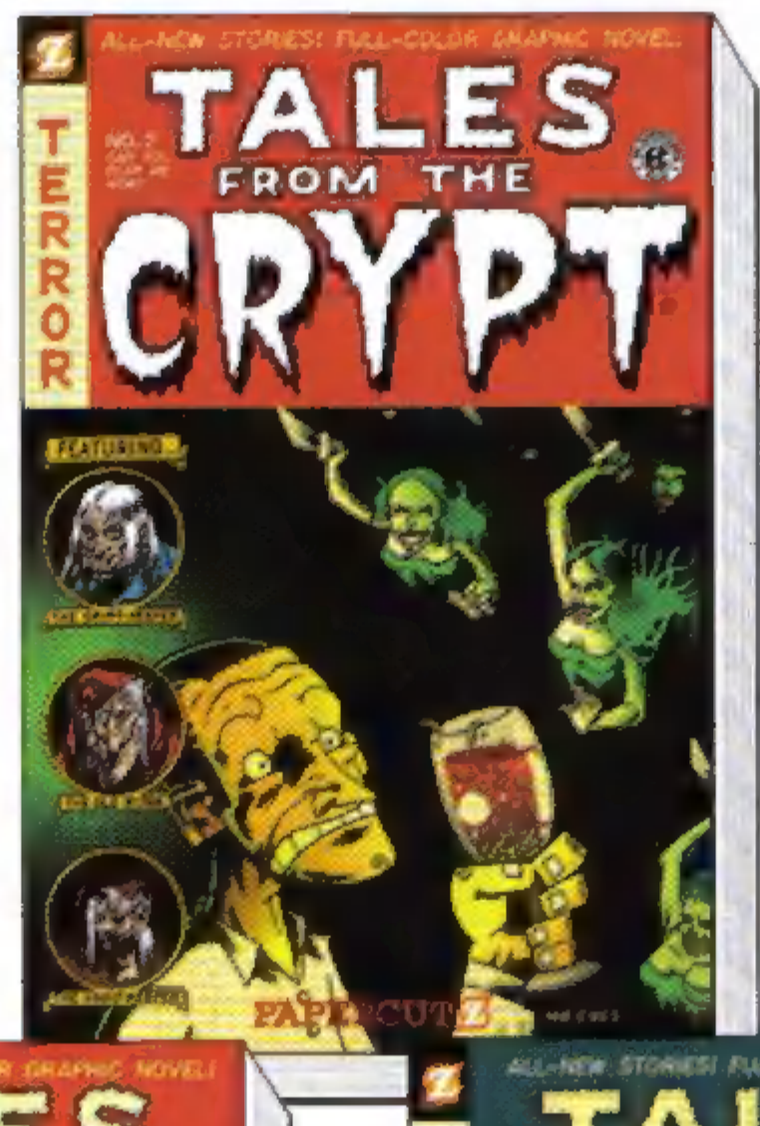
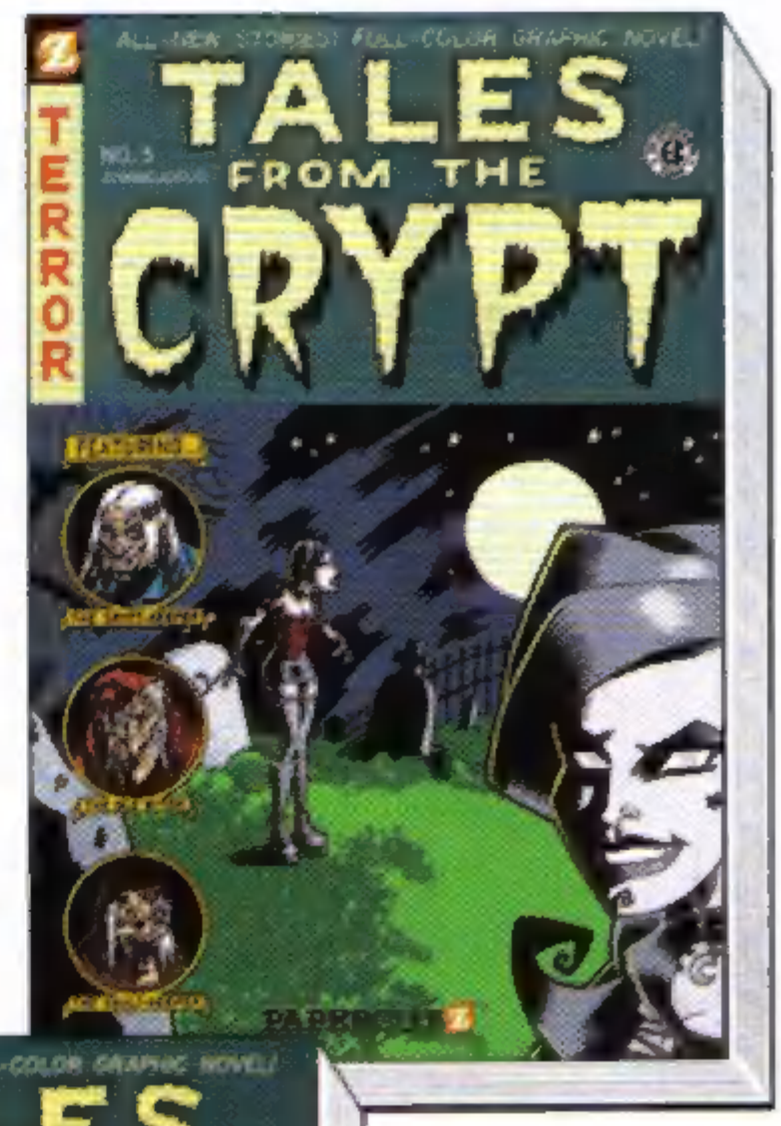
Or call 1-800-886-1223.
MC, VISA, and AMEX accepted.

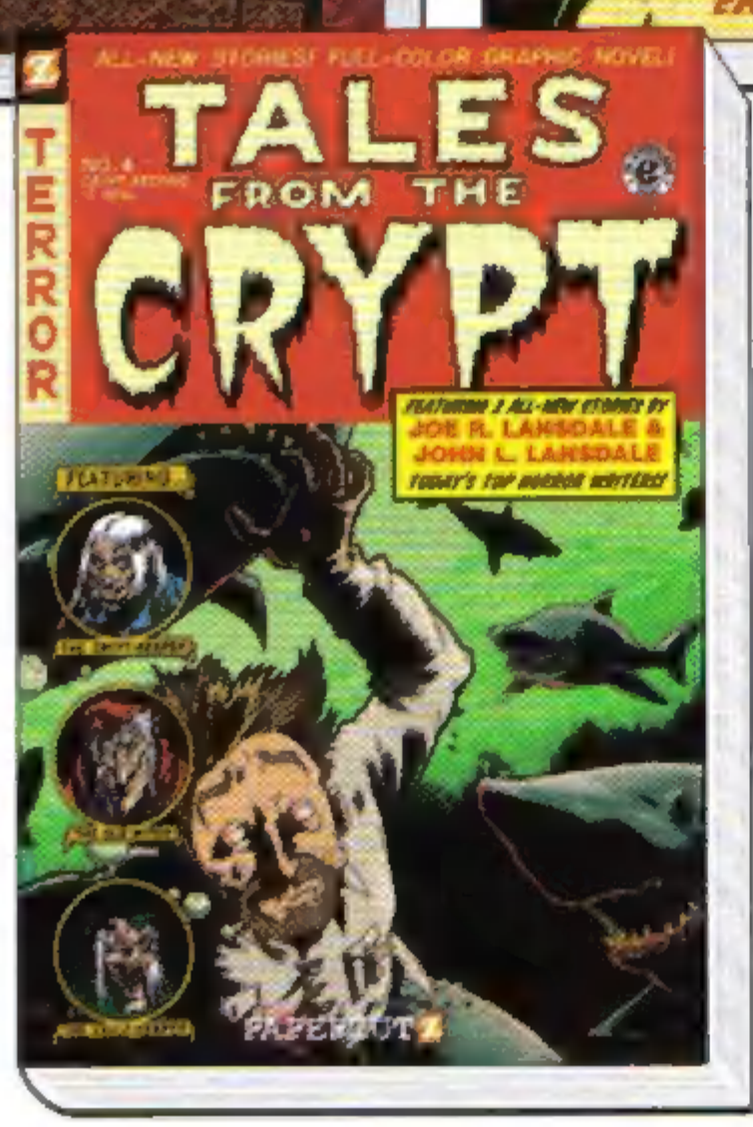
# E.C. FANS!

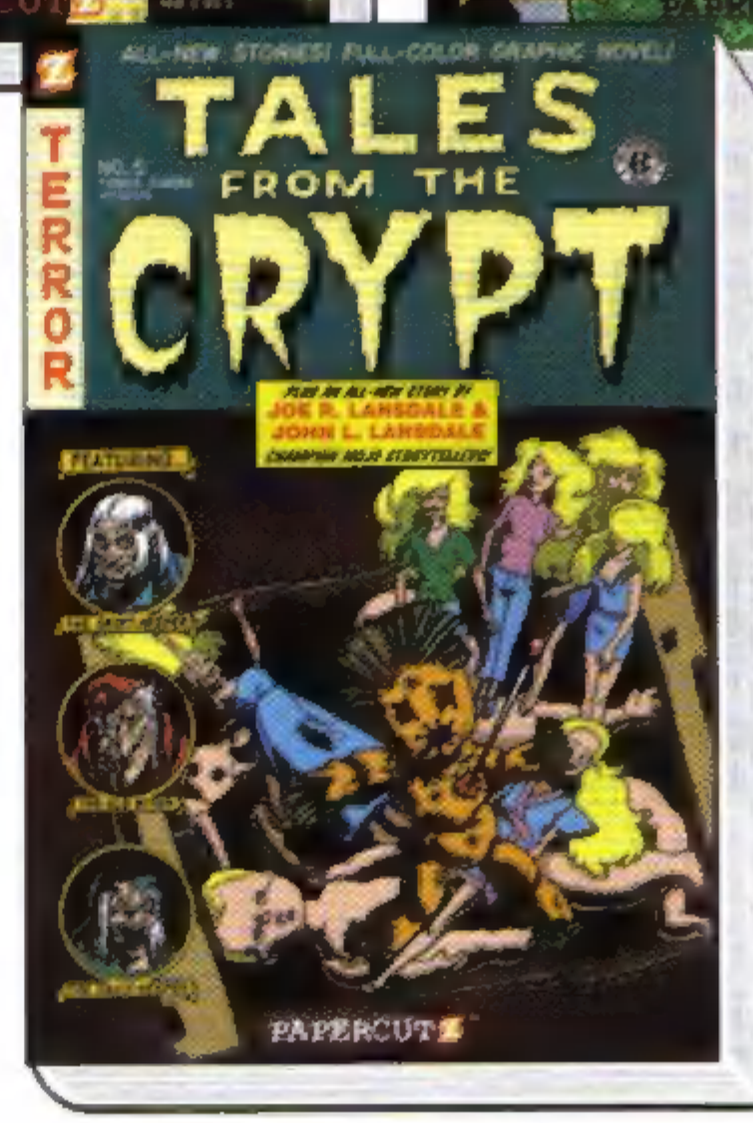
YOU'VE WRITTEN!
YOU'VE E-MAILED!
YOU'VE PHONED!
YOU'VE THREATENED US!
**YOU'VE DEMANDED!**
(BUT WE'RE COMING OUT WITH THESE COLLECTIONS ANYWAY!)

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